(c) the reasons for revising the base year?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) The Government has appointed a working group to reconstruct the Wholesale Price Index series in view of the structural charges in the economy that have taken place since the last base year 1981-82. The terms of reference also include selection of the most appropriate and representative base year for the new series.

Guidelines to States on Organising Lok Adalats

499. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 447 given in the Rajya Sabha on 3rd September, 1996 and state:

(a) the guidelines issued to the State Governments regarding organising Lok Adalats;

(b) the assistance proposed to be extended to different states to organise Lok Adalats in 1996-97; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) A draft Lok Adalat Scheme framed under section 4 (b) of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 has been forwarded to the State Legal Aid and Advice Boards for their comments. Comments from most of the State Legal Aid and Advice Boards are still awaited. Pending finalisation of the Lok Adalat Scheme, Lok Adalats are being organised on the pattern heretofore in practice before the enforcement of the Legal Services Authorities Act with effect from 9.11.1995.

(b) and (c) State-wise allocation of funds is not earmarked. The proposals for financial assistance are examined on their receipt. As on 19.11.1996, total grant-in-aid of Rs. 14.40 lakh has been sanctioned. The details of the grant-in-aid sanctioned to the State Legal Aid & Advice Boards/State Legal Services Authorities for purposes shown against them are as under:— .

SI. No.	Name of the State Legal Aid & Advice Board/State Legal Services Authority	Amount of the grant-in-aid Rs.	For the purpose of
1.	Andhra Pradesh State Legal Services Authority.	2,00,000	Organising Lok Adalats/Lega] Literacy Programmes etc.
2.	Himachal Pradesh State Legal Services Authority.	1,00,000	Conducting Lok Adalats and Legal Literacy Camps.
3.	Kerala State Legal Aid & Advice Board.	1,00,000	Implementing the Lakshadweep Legal Services Project.
4.	Punjab State Legal Services Board.	1,00,000	Organising Lok Adalats, Legal Aid Seminars and Para Legal Literacy Campaigns.
5.	Tamil Nadu State Legal Aid & Advice Board.	4,00,000	Implementation of four Legal Aid Programmes viz. Legal Aid Camps, holding of Lok Adalat and running of Mediation Centres and Centres for Women.
6.	Delhi Legal Aid and Advice Board.	2,00,000	Organising Lok Adalats.
7.	Pondicherry Legal Aid & Advice Board.	50,000	Implementation of various Legal Aid Programmes.

This does not include grants-in-aid to social action groups in different States.